

INSIDE

Pea River
Outdoors
conducts kayak/
canoe race



INSIDE

Elba Tigers
2021 football
schedule



INSIDE

Elba's Wicker
recognized at
AHSAH banquet



The Elba Clipper

Volume 125, Number 10

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 29, 2021

1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Elba Police Chief discusses rash of fires from July 12-17th

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba Police Chief Leslie Hussey discussed rash of fires the city experienced between the week of July 12th through July 17th, and he said there were various causes of these fires, including arson on a couple.

"It has been reported that Elba has a fire bug," Chief Hussey said. "I take exception to that...it's plural...bugs."

The Monday night, July 12, fire that destroyed the Elba Chamber of Commerce building on Putnam Street has been determined to be an electrical fire, according to Hussey. He said two investigators from the state fire marshal's office came the day following this fire to investigate and determine

the cause of fire, and they concluded it was electrical with no foul play involved.

A Tuesday, July 13, fire at 1028 Martin Luther King Drive was determined to be arson.

"Two brothers had been staying in a trailer at this residence without electricity," Hussey said. "They got into a cuss argument, for lack of a better explanation, and one barricaded himself inside a room. The other got some accelerant put a match to it and smoked him out. That man is now in jail."

Another arson occurred Wednesday, July 14, on Simmons Street, according to the chief. He said the police department received multiple complaints from an individual at this residence claiming there were people walking on the roof. He said officers responded three times before explaining to the individual about the misuse of the 911 system.

This July 13th fire was determined to have been intentionally started when two brothers were arguing. Elba Police Chief Leslie Hussey said this week, the investigation revealed that one brother barricaded himself inside a room while the other "smoked him out" by starting the fire. This incident resulted in an arrest, according to the police chief.

"Next call we get is a fire," Hussey said.

He said during the investigation the individual admitted to setting the fire accidentally; however, due to the nature and man's condition, there is a warrant out for the arrest of this person.

On Thursday, July 15, the chief said a car fire at 656 Reynolds Street was determined to be arson as well. He said home security

See FIRES, Page 3

Reckless driver call leads to arrest of Elba man Sunday night

A report of a reckless driver Sunday night, July 25, led to the arrest of an Elba man on multiple charges.

Elba Police Chief Leslie Hussey said dispatch received a report around 9 p.m. Sunday night of a reckless driver on Old Samson Road. He said the caller said the suspect was trying to run his wife off the road and was driving all over the road in the process.

Hussey said an officer made contact with the suspect vehicle, which stopped after going around a curve; however, as the officer got close, he said the suspect took off again. A brief chase began, and the suspect vehicle missed making

a curve.

Chief Hussey said the suspect exited the vehicle and tried to elude officers, but a struggle ensued. He said a taser was used on the suspect.

"During all of this, one of our officers got a shoulder knocked out of place," Hussey said. "It was bad enough that he had to be put to sleep to put the shoulder back in place."

Officers arrested Timmy Kyles, age 44, of Elba. He was charged with DUI (alcohol), reckless driver, attempting to elude (no injury), and resisting arrest.

Kyles was released from the Coffee County Jail on Monday on bonds totaling \$2,500.

Of the incident, Chief Hussey said this is a prime example of just how quickly things can escalate and get out of hand. He said fortunately this particular incident was no worse.

New water/sewer department supervisors introduced at Elba W&E meeting this week

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The City of Elba and Elba Water and Electric Board recently hired two new supervisors to oversee the Water and Sewer Departments. Both of the new supervisors come to Elba with several years of experience in the fields and are certified managers.

Todd Gooding, from Lakeland, Fla., joined the Elba Water and Electric team about two weeks ago. He is the new Water Department supervisor for Elba.

During Monday night's Elba Water and Electric Board meeting, Gooding said he was excited to be in Elba, and he was glad to have escaped the chaos of Central Florida. He said he had worked in the water industry for about 25 years.

"I see a lot of potential for growth here and things we can do," Gooding said. "I'm excited to be here. I am big teamwork and integrity. I have encouraged my team... 'If you are going to bring me a problem, try to bring me a solution too.'"

In the few weeks Gooding has been on the job, he said he has done a lot of observing and some Spring cleaning of things. He said there were 20-25 active leaks across the water system when he arrived on the job, and he and his team have fixed those.

"As of this morning we only had three leaks, and we've got a couple more as of the end of the day for tomorrow," Gooding said.

"But, we are hot on the trail of the leaks. We had two major ones when I came in that we've been able to fix."

Looking at the big picture, Gooding said he wanted the department to do a better job on its reporting

See TANKS, Page 3

Area Happenings

BACK TO SCHOOL! Elba City Schools students will return to school for the 2021-2022 school year on Thursday, Aug. 5, while Coffee County Schools students will return Friday, Aug. 6, for the new school year.

COFFEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT WILL HOLD its monthly board meeting Thursday, Aug. 19, inside the Coffee County Commission Room, 1065 E. McKinnon Street, New Brockton, Ala. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. The number of people that can occupy the room is limited so if those who plan to attend, should call 334-894-5581 extension 3.

THE ELBA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER IS OPEN! Anyone age 60 and over is invited to come join the center for food, fun, and more. Call (334) 897-3019 to sign up.

See COVID, Page 3

See SUPERS, Page 3



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After a break from fires

for the arrest of this person.

"He has moved to another city now," Hussey said. "We have had some contact with him, but we haven't been able to locate him in person yet to make the arrest."

Chief Hussey said the suspect exited the vehicle and tried to elude officers, but a struggle ensued. He said a taser was used on the suspect.

"During all of this, one of our officers got a shoulder knocked out of place," Hussey said. "It was bad enough that he had to be put to sleep to put the shoulder back in place."

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See TANKS, Page 3

See SUPERS, Page 3

See COVID, Page 3

See SUPERS, Page 3

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Life is never fair, and perhaps it is a good thing for most of us that it is not." – Oscar Wilde

Back last year two guys reportedly drove from NYC to LA and back in 74 hours and 5 minutes! They were driving a 1999 R912 SL500 Mercedes-Benz coupe. Just like in the movies, they have all sorts of radar detection stuff but still got stopped a couple of times for speeding. We read that they also had someone in a 'lookout' vehicle ahead of them to warn of state troopers approaching. We can't help but wonder if lots of their story was actually taken, or at best copied from the movie 'Smoky And The Bandit.'

"Sorry but it is too late" doctors are having to tell sick, sick COVID patients who are lying in their hospital bed and begging for the shot. That probably causes lots of sleepless nights among the medical profession. It is so disturbing and downright tragic that so many people would rather use reports – true or fabricated – of a few bad after effects – or worse – over only a few who have the shots even get mildly sick while a very high percentage of current victims are the UNVACCINATED. We feel for those who have medical problems that prevent them from getting vaccinated for COVID. At the same time there is a tendency to want to shake the vast group of 'others' for avoiding the PROVEN lifesaving vaccinations. We think it would eliminate one excuse if the FDA would also go ahead and give the vaccines an unqualified 'good to go' approval.

A childhood friend and 'around the corner' neighbor from the late '40s – Henry Nipper – wrote recently: "I read a good idea about Covid-19: 'Get vaccinated, but act unvaccinated.' He continued with, "I'm wearing my mask around my ten-year-old granddaughter and when I go out in public. I believe the vaccine works, but I don't want to be a breakthrough case, either – or a carrier!" Henry is a PhD type and Professor Emeritus of Pathology at Creighton Emory University, Omaha Nebraska. He is still working some in the labs at the college and doing consultations at other places. If he is as good at this stuff as he was with playing with toy cars and trucks in the sand beds of South Alabama – we better listen!

Saturday, while speaking to a partisan group of supporters in Arizona, former President Trump said to his followers, "I recommend you take the vaccine." He tempered it with acknowledging that people should make their own decisions and not be mandated to get the shots. We have been reminding our loyal Trump supporters that not getting the shot is not supporting Trump – he got the shots and set into motion the efforts that developed the vaccine so quickly. We could cruelly add that it is only increasing the number of the past president's supporters who get very sick and/or die. We are hearing more and more of the past administration insiders who are openly urging vaccinations . . . Dr. Jerome Adams, Trump administration surgeon general, had a blunt public message on Sunday: Get vaccinated.

There were 947 COVID-19 patients in Alabama hospitals Monday, up from 204 at the beginning of July, according to numbers from the Alabama Hospital Association.

Be safe, get the shots, wear your masks when appropriate and wash your hands – again! We can never have too many friends and can't afford to lose a single one of you.

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Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, July 20, 2021, and Monday, July 26, 2021, conducted the following activity:

Tuesday, July 20 – Animal complaint reported at 1223 Ann St (12:14 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 203 (12:24 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 109 Factory Ave (3:16 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1021 Martin Luther King Dr (3:23 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1425 Martin Luther King Dr (3:38 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 165 Lindsey St (4:44 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 14185 Hwy 84 (9:51 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 315 Sawyer St (10:36 p.m.). There were five traffic stops on this date resulting in one citation and one written warning.

Wednesday, July 21 – Suspicious circumstances reported on Hwy 203 (12:41 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Hwy 84 (6:23 p.m.). There were five traffic stops on this date resulting in three citations, one written warning, and one verbal warning.

Thursday, July 22 – Suspicious person reported at 406 Simmons St (12:19 a.m.); Suspicious person reported on Court Ave – an arrest was made (12:57 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 611 Claxton Ave N (2:53 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 638 Claxton Ave N (2:58 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1222 Hickman Ave (3:30 a.m.); Reckless driver reported in area of Hwy 203 and Hwy 87 – an accident report was completed (6:24 a.m.); Trespassing reported at 1706 Stoudemire St – an arrest was made (8:04 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 635 Pinecove Dr – animal impound (9:44 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 1415 Jones St (11:45 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 804 Hwy 203 (12:09 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 2695 Marilyn St – animal impound (2:00 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 2370 Taylor Mill Rd (2:18 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Davis St E (4:33 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 20079 Hwy 189 (5:03 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 329 Sollie Dr (5:30 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Neil Grantham Dr (9:58 p.m.). There were nine traffic stops on this date resulting in six citations, and one three written warnings.

Friday, July 23 – Harassing communications reported at 987 Drayton Ave (2:48 a.m.); Livestock in the roadway on County Rd 355 (5:41 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 804 Hwy 203 (9:08 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 5727 County Rd 410 (7:35 p.m.); Fight reported at 638 Claxton Ave N (11:52 p.m.). There were five traffic stops on this date resulting in one citation, one verbal warning, one arrest, one written warning, and one advice given.

Saturday, July 24 – Found property reported in area of Jones St and Reynolds Ave (9:38 a.m.); Drug activity reported on Cedar Lane Dr (8:15 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 221 Davis St E (9:14 p.m.); Noise complaint on Cedar Lane Dr (10:37 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 1237 Jones Circle (10:51 p.m.). There were four traffic stops on this date resulting in two citations, and two written warnings.

Sunday, July 25 – Reckless driver reported on the Troy Hwy (12:18 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 315 Sawyer St (1:22 a.m.); Suspicious person reported on Claxton Ave N (1:34 a.m.); Harassing communications reported at 811 Buford St (1:24 p.m.); Disturbance reported in Mulberry Heights (1:47 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 885 Cedar Lane Dr (7:38 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Old Samson Rd (9:01 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 315 Sawyer St (11:42 p.m.). There were eight traffic stops on this date resulting in five written warnings, one citation, one verbal warning, and one advice given.

Monday, July 26 – Verbal altercation reported at 1115 Old Samson Rd (3:42 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 1223 Ann St (3:59 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 329 Sollie Dr (10:51 p.m.). There were three traffic stops on this date resulting in one unfounded, and two written warnings.

Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder
Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou has long ago been designated the "cook" of the Yonder gang's house, but every once in a while she convinces [aka tells] Sister to do the cooking. Sunday was one of those occasions.

Sister was going to cook lunch Sunday. After returning home from church, Lou Lou proceeded to change into her 'comfy clothes' and stretched out on the couch with little Bean awaiting said meal to be completed.

She looked up at Sister, who was still standing in the same spot staring at her [with milk jug in hand], and said, "No problem. Milk will be here in a few, and you can complete your cooking."

She gave Sister a devilish smile, and turned her attention back to whatever she was doing prior to Sister announcing there was not enough milk for lunch to be completed.

Lou Lou cannot be sure, but she is almost certain Sister returned to the kitchen and said some not so nice things about Lou Lou. There was definitely lots of 'under your breath' remarks made, and Lou Lou feels certain Sister wasn't thanking her for her quick-thinking in getting Papa to run to the store.

Without saying a word, Lou Lou picked up her phone and dialed a number.

Papa, who attends a different church than Lou Lou and Sister, had not made it home yet for lunch.

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling.

Lou Lou put the phone on

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FIRES

(Continued from Page ONE)

eras at this residence captured a person, wearing a mask and camouflage, approach the vehicle and purposely set the fire.

Chief Hussey said the resident thought they knew the person responsible for the fire; however, the investigation revealed that potential suspect was at work in another city at the time the fire was started. Therefore, at this time, he said the department has no good lead on a suspect for this fire, but it remains under investigation.

The Saturday night, July 17, house fire at 1251 Martin Luther King Drive has been determined an accident, Hussey said. This was an abandoned home with no electricity that Hussey said a homeless lady had been living in with her dogs.

"She told several different stories, but the one that was confirmed is that she sat some groceries down on a mattress before going outside on the porch where she sat 10-15 minutes with another person holding a conversation," Hussey said. "When she returned inside, she found the mattress on fire."

Hussey said an investigator from the state fire marshal's office also came to look at this fire, and while arson cannot be 100 percent ruled out, it is believed to be an accident due to the circumstances. He said the most logical explanation is one of the dogs smelled the food she had placed on the mattress and in trying to get to that food knocked over a burning candle thus causing the fire.

The chief said the lady did have several candles burning inside the home due to it having no working electricity.

"It has been an odd week or so," Hussey said as he finalized his report to Elba Council members. "Like I say...you can't make this stuff up."

TANKS

Con't from Page ONE

the overall price up.

"We are going back with the white tank for all three, and I had provided some logos for you all to look at. You wanted to go with the city logo on all three, but we have the opportunity to make changes now."

Grantham said she deals with many clients throughout the state, and she does not know of any with a water tank located on school property that does not reflect that school in some manner.

"It is not even very common for most tanks to look the same in most cities," Grantham added.

She said if one of the tanks were closer to the airport, the FAA actually would determine the color of said water tank.

Grantham switched hats and also spoke to the board from her standpoint as an Elba City Schools board member saying she would love for the board to decide to do something in reflection to the school for the tank on the school campus.

"I know many look at that tank, see that [logo], feel the strength and pride," Grantham said. "It is just a heart-warming gesture. We're the Tigers here together as one big group."

Gladys Yelverton, also an Elba City School board member, attended the W&E board meeting, and she echoed Grantham's remarks.

"That's the city's school," Yelverton said. "There is a relationship there between the school and the children. The children see that water tank and they know our city appreciates them and the school."

Linda Hodge, president of the Elba High School



This Simmons Street residential fire reported on Wednesday, July 14, was determined during an investigation to have been started by a resident of the apartment complex. Police Chief Leslie Hussey said the suspect eventually admitted to starting the fire, but said he did it on accident. A warrant for arrest has been issued, and police continue to search for the suspect this week. The suspect has since moved from the Elba area, according to the police chief.

COVID

Con't from Page ONE

Alumni Association, also encouraged the board members to consider keeping the logo on the water tank at the school campus as a tribute to the school and "Home of the Tigers."

She said Elba is about community, and Elba City Schools is a big part of that community. She encouraged the board members to keep a school-related logo on that water tank as a symbolic gesture that the community is unified and works together.

Board member A.R. Williams made a motion, with a second from board member Jake Cowen to paint the elevated water tanks the same with exception of the tank at the school. His motion called for the tank at the school to be painted with some sort of logo reflective of Elba City Schools. The motion passed with all board members voting in favor.

Grantham, as project engineer, said the different logos could be included for contractors to bid on and the details fine-tuned after the bid opening on Aug. 13th.

Board chairman Jane Brunson added, "I don't want our board suggesting everything be uniform was in any way meant to be disrespectful to the school. We were just trying to get away from 10 different ways to describe our identity. It was not in any way a reflection that the city did not support the school but more of a unified way to market our identity."

She further said she viewed this topic generating so much interest from the community as a good thing because it showed interest from the citizens.

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*This project was supported by Subgrant #10-18-V5-09 awarded by the Law Enforcement/Traffic Safety Division of ADECA and the U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice or grant-making component.

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Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
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6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at <www.elba-clipper.com>**DRETTA ALLEN**

Mrs. Dretta Allen, age 65, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at her home. Funeral services were held Friday, July 23, 2021, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Paul Nelson officiating. Burial followed in the Hebron Baptist Church Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral

Home.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stevie Allen; a grandson, Hunter Allen; parents, Martha Hodge Nelson, and Hayward D. Nelson; along with a sister, Patty Turner. Survivors include her son: Kevin Allen (Jennie), Elba; granddaughter: Jordan Saunders, Elba; brothers: Huey Wayne "Pojo" Nelson, Glenwood, Ala., and Paul Nelson, Elba; sister: Melinda Lee Pope, Elba; and family friend: Shelia Miles, Elba.

SUPERS

Con't from Page 1

to ADEM, etc. He said he has one piece of equipment now that will help give better reporting on numbers for flushing, and he hopes to add more equipment for those needs in the future.

Also, Gooding said he had a couple of team members that have shown interest in being certified operators. He said he has encouraged them to pursue that, and he has obligated himself to help them in any other repairs.

"We've got some work to do to get the 42 lift stations up to par," Barbaree said.

He added that those working on these prior to his arrival had done a fantastic job to keep things running as smoothly as possible.

"I've only been here a month, and I've been at the lagoon working," he said. "We're trying to get things at the lagoon under control. With all of the construction going on, it is adding some chemicals and things that don't degrade biologically very well. As soon as we can get some repairs done at the lagoon and get things back to normal, I think current construction to the sewer system is going to make a big difference with the lagoon."

Much like Gooding, Barbaree said he would be compiling a list of things needed to improve the system, and he would be discussing those things with board members in the future.

Board chairman Jane Brunson welcomed each to the Elba team and said everyone was super excited to have both men on board.

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Some ways to support the elderly through their grief

The longer we live, the more friends, family members, and pets we will lose. It can start to feel like attending funerals is a regular part of life for us, and this can be difficult. The loss of these people and pets as well as the connection to them can lead to grief, loneliness, and stress. Supporting the elderly through grief and loneliness looks somewhat different from supporting those who are younger. For the aged, they may lack mobility, making it difficult to leave home to be with others. They may also have lost a spouse, partner or close friend who they could confide in and who they depended on for support.

Here are some tips to help support elderly parents, family members or friends in their grief.

1. Grief can last a long time. Grief doesn't end just because the cards, texts and phone calls stop coming. Make sure to continue to check in long after the outside world has moved on.

2. Grief may sometimes be delayed. This can apply especially to those who were caregivers for the deceased. Initially, the caretaker may feel relief or even deny they are grieving because they were expecting the death. It can take weeks or even months for the grief to surface.

3. Grief can cause stress which can weaken the immune system.

Make sure your loved one is going to the doctor for checkups.

4. Find time for meaningful conversations. Many times, those that visit elderly friends and relatives are busy and don't have time to do much more than check in on them. Setting aside some time for meaningful conversations during a visit can go a long way.

5. Help them stay involved. Find other services to come to them if they can't get out. There are many services that can come into an elderly person's home to support them or services that can come pick them up to take them to social events.

6. Seek outside help. If your loved one seems depressed or is having a hard time coping beyond what you can provide, it might be good to encourage them to find support from a therapist.

The important thing to remember is to continue to reach out to the elderly and help them stay connected to their friends, family and community.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

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CHURCH NEWS & More

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Steve Reneau, Pastor
Elba United Methodist Church
503 Davis Street, Elba, AL

I invite you to read: *Mark 6:30-34, 53-56*

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

In this story we see the apostles, those whom Jesus has sent to teach and heal, return to tell Jesus everything they had done and taught. There is so much activity, that Jesus says to the apostles that they need a retreat from all of the "coming and going" so they can rest and eat. Yet, as they cast off their boat to go to that deserted place, the crowd followed them and met them as the came ashore. Notice Jesus' reaction here. It is neither anger nor frustration. Indeed, the scripture says that Jesus had compassion for the crowd. In this moment, we get a glimpse of what God sees when God sees us, and it is compassion. When you say you have compassion for someone it means that someone else is hurting, and compassion is one way you can respond to one who is hurting. The word "compassion" is such a beautiful word in our language, and it literally means "to suffer with". Though you are not suffering, compassion is choosing to let someone else not have to suffer alone, but to suffer in community. Compassion is the choice of adding suffering to our own lives for the sake of another.

How often when someone else is suffering we try to respond. I love the Book of Job because of Job's friends. When Job is suffering they come to Job, they have compassion with Job, they sit on the trash heap with a grieving friend and join him in grief. Yet, after a period of time, they start trying to solve Job's problem. They start trying to figure out where everything went wrong, they stop suffering with Job and start trying to fix Job. Compassion is suffering with another for the sake of the other. When Jesus looked upon the crowd, and saw their brokenness, their pain, their hurt, he joined them in their suffering. God is not some distant and removed deity who barely if at all cares for us. Our God chooses to suffer for our sake. Our God joins us in our suffering.

If you are suffering, and you feel alone, reach out to those who follow Christ in this city, and let us join you in community. If you know of someone who is suffering in your life, and are terrified with how to respond, then show them compassion, join them in their suffering, and know that Job's friends only got in trouble once they began speaking; sit with those who are suffering where they are, just like Job. For when we have compassion, when we sit with one who is suffering, we are acting like God, we are acting like Jesus.



IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN

Covenant Community Church
Diana White, Pastor
Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night (Youth Real Deal and Children's Activities) 6:00 p.m.

Damascus Baptist Church
Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

Dorcas Baptist Church
Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:15 p.m.

Faith Chapel Community Church
Philip Adcock, Pastor
Sunday Morning 8:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

First Assembly of God Kinston
Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Eanom Baptist Church
Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet 6:30 p.m.

Friendship Baptist Church
Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Friendship Holiness Church
Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY
H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunrise 6:00 p.m.
Thur. Night 7:00 p.m.

ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE
John Curtis Isaacs, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service 7:00 p.m.

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Kit Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service 6:30 p.m.

HAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor
Morn. Worship 8:45 a.m.

HAWK HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Larry Martin, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night 7:00 p.m.

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH
Larry Mads, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Lovel Martin, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, AL
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service 5:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Harry Driggers, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:30 a.m.
Even. Worship 6:30 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.

CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH Remonia Smith, Pastor
Church Service 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Shirley Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet 7:00 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
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LIFESTYLES

New Hope Sr. Center "Employee of Month"

Penny Price has been employed with the New Hope Senior Center for two years. She currently serves as the kitchen aide and bus driver.

Price is a certified florist, mother, and wife. She enjoys making floral arrangements, crafts, and gardening.

Senior director Conzuela Banks said, "Penny is a joy at New Hope Senior Center."

When asked what she likes about her job, Price said it is very satisfying and she realizes how important she is to each senior.

"This job gives me joy!"



Penny Price



PEA RIVER OUTDOORS CROWNS WINNERS OF KAYAK/CANOE RACE...Pea River Outdoors of Elba, in conjunction with Restoration 154, held a Kayak and Canoe Race last Saturday, July 24, on the Pea River. The race journey began from Weeks Bridge in Coffee County and ended at the Pea River boat landing in Elba. It was a 9.4 mile race. Joe Prior, right photo, left, won the canoe division in 1-hour 54-minutes. Jerry Pitts, above photo, left, won the kayak division in 1-hour 36 minutes. Both winners are being congratulated by Auburn University student Oquendo Bernard, race coordinator. Bernard, a native of Jamaica is participating in the Auburn University Living Democracy Program, which brought him to live and work in Elba this summer. He worked with Restoration 154 this summer to bring new programs to the city.



Landmark Park announces upcoming events for Fall '21

Lots of fun and educational activities coming up at Landmark Park, home of Alabama's official museum of agriculture!

Landmark Park is located at 430 Landmark Dr. in Dothan, just three miles north of Dothan's Ross Clark Circle. For more information, call 334-794-3452 or visit www.landmarkparkdothan.com. Regular daily admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for kids and free for park members and children 2 and under.

Landmark Park is a Blue Star Museum! Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel, including the National Guard and Reserves, and up to five family members. The 2021 Blue Star Museums program ends on Labor Day—Monday, September 6, 2021. Landmark Park also extends this offer to include veterans and their families. Sponsored by All In Credit Union.

Education Festival

August 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Teachers, youth group leaders and families are invited to a showcase of the educational opportunities that are available at Landmark Park. Activities will include Planetarium shows, live animal programs, dulcimer lessons, and more. Free with paid gate admission.

Quilt Retreat

August 13 from 4:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. and August 14 from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Taught by Sherry Burkhalter, owner of Quilted Creations on the Square in Headland. Held in the Stokes Activity Barn. Call Sherry at 334-790-9045 for details and to register.

Landmark Park Bluegrass Festival

September 11, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Visit Landmark Park for live music all day from The Byrd Family, Cedar Creek, Southern Gentleman, Benton Brothers and Company, and East Wind Bluegrass Band. Plus instrument demos, food trucks, kids activities, vendors and more. Admission is \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors and military; \$4 for kids; free for park members and children 2 and under. Bring your lawn chairs. Admission includes a wristband for re-entry. Sponsored by ALLEAPS, Headland Ace Hardware, Perry's Music-Chord Buddy, Wiregrass Electric, Panhandle 2.0, Rex Lumber, El Dorado Steakhouse, Northstar Engineering Services, HNB First Bank and Snowhill Engineering.

Peanut Boil

September 25, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Bring your picnic and lawn chairs for an after-hours peanut boil. Watch as peanuts are stacked the old fashioned way and listen to bluegrass music. Admission

she added.

The New Hope Senior Citizens Center staff and members salute Penny Price on being named the Employee of the Month.

CCRC meeting set for Aug. 14th

The Coffee County Republican Club [CCRC] will meet Saturday, Aug. 14, at 8:30 a.m., at the Enterprise Country Club.

The guest speaker will be State Representative Wes Allen, candidate for Alabama Secretary of State – the Constitutional office responsible for running elections in the state.

This meeting is open to the public. For information, call 334-494-2427.



Rep. Wes Allen

**Lifestyles News
is due on Mondays!**

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Protect with 3!
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Protect your patients against vaccine preventable diseases.

As healthcare professionals, it is up to you to ensure your patients remain up to date with their vaccines.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) recommend the following vaccines for adolescents:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis
- Human papillomavirus
- Meningococcal disease
- Influenza

For more information, please visit alabamapublichealth.gov/imm



THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO) WILL HOLD THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

1. Local Public Forums
 - A. Coffee County – August 4, 2021, 3:00 p.m. – Coffee County Community Room (New Brockton)
2. Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), Thursday, August 5, 2021, 2:00 pm. – Daleville City Hall, Board Room
3. Policy Committee, Thursday, August 5, 2021, 3:00 p.m. – Daleville City Hall, Board Room

The scope of the meetings is to discuss transportation safety issues, regional transportation project updates, and coordinated public transportation issues, including the regional coordinated transportation public transit plan, which identifies transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes, provides strategies for meeting these local needs, and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation.

The RPO was established to develop a transportation planning process for the rural areas of southeastern Alabama and provides a formal link between the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the local governments. The counties served by the RPO include Barbour, Coffee, Covington, and areas of Dale, Geneva, Henry, and Houston not served by the Southeast Wiregrass Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The RPO provides government officials and citizens in these counties an opportunity to receive information and advise the ALDOT on road, bridge, and other transportation projects.

All of the meetings are open to the public. Anyone requiring special assistance should contact the SEARP&DC at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (334) 794-4093.

Coffee County Schools announce Title I meetings for next Tuesday

Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel Schools invite all parents to attend their annual school-wide Title I meetings Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

School officials encourage all parents to join them for these informative meetings.

Parents will gather in a general assembly to participate in a Title I presentation. The Title I presentation is designed to: 1) inform parents how Title I schools are identified, 2) inform parents about Title I regulations, 3) involve parents in Title I decisions, 4) - 6:00

The Grantham Agency
603 N. Claxton Ave., Elba, AL

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The Elba Clipper

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TO PLACE AN ADCALL 334-897-2823
FAX 334-897-3434

e-mail clipper@troycable.net

DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear. We reserve the right to edit

COST

Only \$500 per week (first 15 words)

* Additional words 20¢ each
Prepaid personal**SERVICES**For all your Lawn Mower Repair Needs CALL
RANDY SMALL MOTORS
5491 County Rd. 410
334 897-5168.**CCS CONSTRUCTION:**R.J. LOTT 334-224-1004.
HANDY MAN SERVICES: All types carpentry, electrical and plumbing repairs. Additions, decks renovations. No job too small. Affordable rates and prompt service. Senior citizen discount.**BAKERS TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL.** 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE FREE Estimates. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. t/c**A D V E R T I S E STATEWIDE** or by Region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Alaskan newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!**ARE YOU BEHIND \$10k OR MORE ON YOUR TAXES?** Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt FAST. Call 855-887-9533 (Hours: Mon-Fri 7am-5pm PST).**Did you receive a HERNIA MESH IMPLANT in 2008 or later and require a revision or removal surgery?** You may be entitled to compensation. Let our legal team assist you in getting the maximum amount you deserve! Call 866-943-9202.**BATH & SHOWER UPDATES** in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 833-449-1307.**LONG DISTANCE MOVING:** White-Glove Service from America's Top Movers. Fully insured and bonded. Let us take the stress out of your out of state move. FREE QUOTES! Call: 844-513-0651.**SAVE UP TO 80% ON YOUR MEDICATION.** Eliquis, Xarelto, Viagra, Cialis and more. Licensed and Certified. Lowest Price Guaranteed. Call 855-899-6256 and get free shipping on your first order. (Open M-F).**TRAIN ONLINE TO DO MEDICAL BILLING!** Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 866-475-1014. (M-F 8am-6pm ET).**FAX****HELP WANTED****ACCOUNTANT ASSISTANT****ALSO HIRING EXPERIENCED HR ASSISTANT
INZI seeking local office help**JOB DETAILS**

Pay: Up to \$15 an hour INZI

JOB TYPE: FULL-TIME

Schedule : 8 hours shift / Monday to Friday

BENEFITS:401(k), Dental, Health, Vision
Paid Vacation and Holidays
Gift Card – Thanksgiving, X-mas
Associate+ (Required)

Accounting: 3 years (Preferred)

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Recognition and extra precautions needed to prevent heat illnesses

With heat indices rising into triple digits, the Alabama Department of Public Health advises the public to be alert to the warning signs of heat illnesses. Heat-related illnesses occur when the body is exposed to high temperatures. The incidence of these illnesses rises expectedly during warm weather periods, and anyone exposed to high temperatures or extreme heat can experience symptoms when the body's temperature control system is overloaded.

The most common heat-related illnesses are as follows:

- Heat cramps
- Heat exhaustion
- Heat stroke

Heat cramps— include muscle pains or spasms (abdomen, arms or legs), profuse sweat, and high salt concentration in the sweat.

Heat exhaustion—is associated with heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea, or vomiting and fainting. Other possible symptoms may include cool and moist skin, fast and weak pulse rate, fast and shallow breathing, or irritability. Older adults, those with high blood pressure and those working or exercising in a hot environment are prone to heat exhaustion. If heat exhaustion is not treated, it may progress to heatstroke.

Heat stroke or sun stroke—the most serious heat-related illness, a life-threatening problem, may occur when the body is unable to control its temperature. Body temperature may rise to 106 degrees F or higher within 10 -15 minutes. Signs include an extremely high body temperature, red, hot and dry or moist skin, rapid, strong pulse, throbbing headache, dizziness,

nausea, dehydration, combativeness or confusion, and unconsciousness. Heat stroke is a medical emergency and even with immediate treatment, it can be life-threatening or cause serious long-term problems.

It is recommended people drink plenty of fluids except alcohol or caffeinated beverages to prevent dehydration, stay in an air-conditioned room, keep out of the sun by seeking shelter, wear a wide-brimmed hat, light-colored and loose-fitting clothing, and use sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher, take cool showers or baths, and reduce or eliminate strenuous activities during the hottest times of the day.

Individuals with heart disease, diabetes, obesity, poor circulation, or previous stroke problems, people of older and younger ages, and those taking certain medications are at greater risk of becoming ill in hot weather.

For more information, visit <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/injury-prevention/heat.html>

COVID Vaccine Clinic set for Thursday in Andalusia

An ADPH Vaccine Clinic will be held Thursday, July 29, on the LBW Community College campus in Andalusia.

This is open to the public. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines will be available at the clinic, which will be held in the Student Center Building, Multi-Purpose Room.

Clinic time is 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.



ELBA LIONS CLUB WELCOMES GUEST SPEAKER... Jonathon Tullus, center of photo to the left, was guest speaker at a recent Elba Lions Club meeting. Tullus is City Administrator for the City of Enterprise. He stressed to club members that progress for one community in Coffee County was progress for all of Coffee County by creating jobs, new citizens and new retail businesses and more funds for the schools highways, etc. Pictured with Tullus are Lions Steve Tolliver, left and Leo Brown, right.

PUBLIC RELEASE

Coffee County Schools today announced its policy for free and reduced-price meals for children served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program. Local school officials have adopted the following household size and income criteria for determining eligibility:

Children need healthy meals to learn and Coffee County Schools offer healthy meals every school day. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all schools in Alabama will be serving breakfast and lunch at no cost to students, as well as After School Snack at the schools that participate in an After School Programs.

During this COVID-19 Pandemic, the PEBT program has allowed children to receive benefits equal to the National School Lunch Program reimbursement rate, which is \$6.82 per day for each eligible child. Children may continue to access meals from local school districts while receiving P-EBT benefits. To gain P-EBT eligibility, households that experienced decreased income may apply for free or reduced-price meals at the schools their children attend. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from Alabama SNAP and Alabama TANF, are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children who are directly certified are eligible to receive free meals.
- When known to **Coffee County Schools**, households will be notified of their children's eligibility for free meals based on their participation (or a household member's participation) in the: o Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR); or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), if the State program meets Federal standards.
- When known to **Coffee County Schools**, households will be notified of any child's eligibility for free meals based on the individual child's designation as Other Source Categorically Eligible, as defined by law. Children are determined Other Source Categorically Eligible if they are: Homeless, Migrant, Runaway, A foster child, or Enrolled in Head Start or an eligible pre-kergarten program (see: SP 40-2013: Q&As Regarding the Participation of Head Start Programs in Child Nutrition Programs, <https://www.fns.usda.gov/qas-regarding-participation-head-start-programs-child-nutrition-programs-0>).

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES		REDUCED PRICE MEALS - 155 %				FREE MEALS - 130 %			
	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	WEEKS	WEEKLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	WEEKS	WEEKLY
48 CONTIGUOUS STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AND TERRITORIES										
1	12,680		23,828	1,980	993	917	459	16,744	1,396	698
2	17,420		32,227	2,680	1,343	1,240	620	22,646	1,880	944
3	21,960		40,626	3,380	1,693	1,563	782	28,548	2,379	1,190
4	26,500		49,025	4,080	2,043	1,886	963	34,459	2,871	1,436
5	31,040		57,424	4,780	2,393	2,209	1,056	40,352	3,363	1,682
6	35,580		65,823	5,480	2,743	2,532	1,265	46,254	3,855	1,928
7	40,120		74,222	6,180	3,093	2,855	1,428	52,156	4,347	2,174
8	44,660		82,621	6,880	3,443	3,178	1,569	58,058	4,839	2,420
For each add'l family member, add	4,540		8,399	700	350	324	162	5,902	492	246
										227
										114

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail your child(ren)'s school.

3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information.

Return the completed application to your child(ren)'s school.

4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact your child(ren)'s school immediately.

5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit our web site to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact Betsy Wood at (334) 897-5016 if you have any questions about the online application.

X. No, an online application is not available at this time.

6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year, through September 17, 2021. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.

7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.

8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. In accordance with program regulations, school officials will be verifying the income of some households at some time during the school year. Selected households will be requested to provide income documentation in order to continue receiving free and reduced-price meals.

9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Kelly Cobb, 400 Reddoch Hill Road, Elba, Alabama 36323, (334) 897-5016, cobkk@coffeecounty.k12.al.us.

11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.

12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.

14. DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE MY SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER? Only the last 4 digits of the social security number of the household's primary wage earner or another adult household member (or an indication of "none") is required.

15. MAY I DECLINE BENEFITS? Yes. Households notified of their children's eligibility must contact **Coffee County Schools** or school if they choose to decline the free meal benefits.

16. WHAT IF ALL CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS ARE NOT ON THE NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY LETTER? If children or households receive benefit under Assistance Programs or Other Source Categorically Eligible Programs and are not listed on the notice of eligibility and are not notified by the school of their free meal benefits, the parent or guardian should contact the school or should submit an income application.

17. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.

18. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper and attach it to your application. Contact your child(ren)'s school to receive a second application.

19. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for Alabama SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call Alabama hotline number - 800-382-0499.

If you have other questions or need help, call BETSY WOOD AT (334) 897-5016.

Nondiscrimination Statement: In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>. (AD-3027) found online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

With the start of school only a week away, our grandson Lawson, his Mom and his Nanny all headed down to the beach last week for a few days of sun and sand. While I'm not sure if his Nanny even got her feet wet, Lawson did dodge the early-week showers to find his way to the pool every day, and spent more than a few hours playing in the sand and walking in the warm gulf waters. It was a much needed vacation for all three, and now it's time to get ready to head back to the grind.

For what it is worth....

***** Last year wasn't the best of seasons** for the girls' sports program at Elba High as far as team goals were concerned, but it was a year to remember for a trio of Lady Tigers as three student-athletes signed scholarships

With no breathers

Elba flips the page for 2021 schedule



Coach Marc Sieving

The Elba Tigers posted winning record for the 14th straight season a year ago to add to their rich football history, but missed the playoffs for the first time in 13 years, and will enter the 2021 season determined to make a return to the post-season party and to rejoin the elite across the state in the 2A ranks.

Elba, which will kick off its 100th season on the gridiron in 2021, has posted a 585-367-27 record during its glory years in football, with a total of seven state championships and 19 region titles on its resume. It owns a 306-149-11 record at home and a 242-188-7 record on the road, and in the playoffs boasts a 50-28 slate.

The Tigers got off to a fast 4-1 start last season under new head coach Marc Sieving, including a big win over 3A Opp, but found the wins hard to come by late in the season as they failed to make the playoffs in their return to the 2A ranks after two years in Class 1A. They averaged 38.8 points a game and allowed 23.5 points a game during the season. However, their downfall came late in the season against area foes as they surrendered 44.6 points a game in their three area losses.

Following is a preview of the 2021 season and a brief scouting report on the Tigers opponents:

Daleville – Elba defeated the Warhawks 50-0 last season in the season opener, owns an all-time 15-6 record in the series and has won five of the last seven meetings against the 3A foe. The Warhawks have posted 32 winning seasons in their 57 years on the gridiron and in 1972 claimed the school's lone state championship. They have won three region crowns the last ten years and have posted five winning seasons in the last six years. Last season, Daleville averaged 7.5 points per game and allowed 43.4 points per outing. The Warhawks will be led this season by Coach Will Garner, the team's fifth head coach in six years.

Opp – Elba defeated the Bobcats 26-20 last season, has won four straight games over its 3A rival, and has an overall record of 41-44 against its biggest rival. The Bobcats posted an 8-4 record last season on their way to the playoffs, their only winning season in the past four years. They are in their 100th season on the gridiron and boast 67 winning seasons and two region titles in the past six years. The Bobcats will be under the direction of Coach Mike Dubose in 2021, the former coach at the University of Alabama, who in seven seasons as a high school head coach has posted a 39-32 career record.

G.W. Long – Elba watched a late lead vanish in a 41-34 loss to the Rebels last season, owns a 3-3 all-time record in the brief series, and has lost the last two meetings. The Rebels are in their 57th year on the football field, have posted 33 winning seasons and have claimed five region titles in the last nine seasons. They have won at least nine games eight of the last ten seasons and have emerged as a 2A power. This season the Rebels will be led by Coach David Watts, their first new head coach in 12 years. Watts came to G.W. Long after a successful stay at Brantley as offensive coordinator, and has two years head coaching experience at Georgiana, where his teams posted a 3-17 slate.

Zion Chapel – Elba posted a 38-7 win over the Rebels last season, owns a perfect 11-0 record in the series and in those wins has outscored their county rivals 545-69. In its 60th year on the gridiron, Zion Chapel has posted 17 winning seasons, won its last region title in 1979 and has made one playoff appearance in the last nine years. The Rebels have struggled to post only one winning record in the last nine seasons and a year ago struggled to a 1-9 record after posting an 11-10 record the previous two years. Coach Randy Bryant will be back for his fifth year.

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to continue their careers at the next level. Jaylyn Baker, a multi-sport standout, chose softball as the sport she wanted to continue playing in college and signed with Gulf Coast Community College, while Breanna Sanders took her basketball skills to Southern Union Community College and Makenna Gray took her softball talents to Chattahoochee Valley Community College. All three girls were valuable members of all the girls' sports teams during their high school careers, and now that they will get to concentrate on just one sport look for all three to continue to make their Elba fans proud!

***** As I was working on the team schedules** for this year's high school football previews I noticed that New Brockton no longer has Kinston or Zion Chapel on its schedule. The three county schools played for years in all sports and even crowned a school system champion, but as the Gamecocks student population grew and the football team became more competitive I guess the powers to be at the schools decided the talent levels at the schools had become lopsided in favor of the Gamecocks and ended the long cross-county rivalries. New Brockton had won three of the last four meetings and 14 of the last 15 meetings with Kinston dating back to 2015 and owned a 29-6 series edge, while the Gamecocks owned a 35-10 series edge against Zion Chapel, had won eight of the last

ten meetings and 16 of the last 20 games. Kinston is a 1A school, Zion Chapel is a 2A school and New Brockton is a 3A school, and I understand the difference in student population and the number student-athletes at the schools. However, Kinston does play 3A Houston Academy, and Kinston and Zion Chapel still play each other every season. If the county schools aren't going to play during the regular season maybe they could get together for a three-team football jamboree in the spring or early fall to at least give the fans something to brag about.

***** It came as no real surprise last week** when the Alabama Department of Public Health released an advisory about fish consumption at the Pea River. The state agency has discouraged fishermen from eating fish coming out of the Pea River near Elba for years, and this year have advised anglers not to eat any species of fish caught in the river due to high levels of mercury in the fish. There is no doubt that over the centuries many contaminants have been pouring into the Pea River as it passed Elba, and while many have been stopped, there is probably no way to find out just where all the chemicals are entering the waterway. The advisory also cautioned anglers from eating bass caught from the Conecuh River, Frank Johnson reservoir, Gant Lake reservoir, Lake Jackson reservoir and the Point A reservoir. The state reported a total of 492 samples had been taken from 41 sites, and published the annual report to warn the public of possible health issues. Maybe if you clean the fish a little better and fry them a little longer we will all survive.

***** Alabama coach Nick Saban was back** in the headlines last week when he reported while making a speech in Texas that sophomore quarterback Bryce Young had already earned almost \$1 million from endorsements after the NCAA passed its rule allowing college players in all sports to benefit from their name, likeness and image. Young has yet to even start a game with the Crimson Tide, but brought lofty credentials with him from high school and is obviously a very popular player for Bama fans all across the nation. Young has signed with a marketing agency that is used by numerous pro athletes, and will be a millionaire while still in college. Hey, since the players are already making big bucks maybe they will hang around college a few extra years.

***** Clemson head football coach Dabo Swinney** has never backed down from giving his opinion on an issue, and last week drew the ire of many of the nation's so-called sports experts when he spoke out against expanding the college football playoffs. Swinney said when the playoffs grew to four teams it took away from the regular season, and declared if the playoffs expand to twelve teams the regular season will mean even less. In recent years many college players that weren't involved in the playoffs sat out bowl games to avoid possible injury, and that number would no doubt grow if a team didn't make the top 12. What really drew the ire of the sports talk world was when Swinney added he doubted there were 12 teams good enough to make the playoffs and stated "playing more games just means playing more games."

at the helm for the Rebels and has a career record of 14-27.

Cottonwood – Elba rolled to a big 56-6 win over the Bears last season, owns a 6-3 series edge and has won four of the last five meetings, including the last two by a combined score of 125-21. The Bears are in their 89th season on the football field and boast 53 winning records, state championships in 1957 and 1986, and won their last region title in 2010. Their last winning season came in 2014, and over the last two years have posted a combined record of 5-14. Coach Dustin Harrison will return for his second season with the Bears and last season led his team to a 2-7 record.

Providence Christian – Elba dropped a 27-20 decision to the Eagles last season in the first meeting ever between the two teams. The Eagles are in their 16th season in the AHSAA and have posted 11 winning seasons and own a 96-66 overall record. Last year the Eagles struggled to a 4-7 record, their first winning season since 2014. Coach Kenny Keith will be back for his ninth season at the helm and has posted a 60-37 record and has led the Eagles to four straight playoff appearances.

Geneva County - Elba defeated the Bulldogs 50-22 last season, owns a 27-15 series edge, and has won five straight games over their region rivals. The Bulldogs are in their 104th season on the gridiron and have posted 55 winning seasons. They boast four state championships in their rich history, the last coming in 1963, while the last region crown was won in 1998. Last season the Bulldogs posted an 8-4 record, their most wins since 2013, and advanced to the 2A playoffs. Coach Jim Bob Striplin will be back for his sixth year at the helm at Geneva County and has led the Bulldogs to a 28-26 record during his tenure.

Abbeville – Elba lost a wild 48-42 shootout to the Yellow Jackets last season, but owns a 7-3-1 all-time series edge and has won five of the last seven meetings. The Yellow Jackets are in their 102nd season on the football field, have posted 53 winning seasons and two state championships, the last coming in 1971. They have won two region titles in the last four years and last season equaled the most wins in program history as they claimed 12 wins on their way to the state 2A finals. The last four seasons, Abbeville has posted a 39-10 record. Coach LaBrian Stewart will be back for his second year at the helm at Abbeville after last season's historic run.

Ariton – Elba dropped a 45-32 decision to the Purple Cats last season in a game that eliminated it from playoff contention, but owns a 2-1 edge in a series that went 90 years between games. The Purple Cats are in their 63rd year on the football field, have posted 35 winning seasons and have claimed region titles two of the last four years. Last season was Ariton's first losing season in five years as it posted a 5-6 record, after winning a total of 29 games the previous three seasons. Coach Steven Kilcrease will return for his sixth year at the helm and has led the 'Cats to a 40-20 record during his tenure.

Houston County – Elba posted a 40-19 win over the Lions last season, owns a 4-3 series edge and has won the last three meetings. The Lions are in their 93rd year in the gridiron and have posted 39 winning seasons, with their last region crown coming in 2001. The Lions have posted only one winning record since 2010, over the last three years have a 4-26 record, and have struggled to back-to-back one win seasons. Coach Chip Harris is in his second year at the helm at Houston County, but previously coached at the school from 1977-2001.

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ELBA HIGH SCHOOL GOLF COACH MARK WICKER (left) received the Alabama High School

Athletic Association's 2020-2021 State Championship Coach Award for 1A-2A Golf (Boys). Wicker was

presented the award Friday night, July 23, during the AHSAA Coaches Championship Banquet. Pictured with Coach

Wicker is Alvin Briggs, AHSAA executive director.

(Photo credit: AHSAA photo / Marvin Gentry)

